

Good Health Care

Maye 28 June 1984

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Wasatch County Hos- education program is McQuarrie, R.N. Her ities include monitoring recommendations for care from various (cardio-pulmonary resuscitation.) Since the 1973 National Confer- ence on CPR in Emergency Cardiac Care support has been increasing to emphasize programs to train medical, paramedical and lay persons in each respective CPR. It has long been understood that hospitals and their staffs should assume responsibility for on-going instruction and certification in BLS (basic life support) and ACLS (advanced cardiac life support), thus insuring an additional margin of safety and the highest possible quality of care to both its patients and the community it serves. In keeping with that trust Wasatch County Hospital and its education program recommend certification in BLS for all employees and ACLS certification for all licensed personnel. There are few hospitals of comparable size that can boast of such an accomplishment. In addition, there are two of our employees, Jeanette McQuarrie, R.N. and Larry Smith, R.T., who are also certified in Pediatric ACLS. This does indeed give each patient an advantage of safety and should offer comfort to those who have chosen hospitalization in this

community hospital over that of larger more distant ones. It is evident that Wasatch County Hospital endeavors to consistently and responsibly improve the high quality of care that is already a tradition of pride. Since the recognition of CPR (cardio-pulmonary resuscitation) as a definitive life-saving measure there has been significant efforts made by the American Heart Association and other interested health care professionals to increase the numbers of lay persons trained in the basic life support skills. The American Heart Association through its continuing efforts in researching to the benefits of this training has come to demonstrate that in communities having large numbers of lay persons trained in CPR and supporting a rapid response system, that more than 40% of the victims of major life-threatening cardiac arrhythmias can be successfully resuscitated if CPR is promptly provided. Furthermore, 60% to 80% of the victims of cardiac arrest have been successfully resuscitated simply by the use of this basic life-saving measure. The AHA also states that "in the absence of prompt by-stander CPR, successful resuscitation of prehospital cardiac arrest victims is less than half as likely." Thus, the man, woman or child on the street trained in the BLS skills takes on a new and vital meaning to the health care system of any area. Therefore Wasatch County Hospital wishes to invite and encourage participation by the public in learning these fundamental life-saving skills. Jeanette McQuarrie, R.N. and a staff of BLS certified instructors are available to teach the American Heart Association app-

proved program which includes a four hour certification course (usually involving two sessions) of instruction in identifying the signs and symptoms of heart attack, how to implement the EMS system, both one-man and two-man CPR, techniques for assisting the victim of an obstructed airway (choking), practice on both an adult and infant maniquin and a written exam. At its completion the student will receive a card identifying him or her as trained in the BLS skills. If you are skeptical about your ability to learn and understand these skills may we assure you that the presentation is designed for all people. This program has been presented to senior citizens, school children and many representatives of various groups in-between with equal success. There have even been documented reports of small children equipped with these skills saving lives either by direct involvement or by being cognizant of a life threatening situation and obtaining the proper help for the victim. We are anxious, as a community-based hospital with a large service area, to provide you with the best possible health care. An important part of that responsibility is in insuring delivery of skilled help to the victim of a crises within that critical time frame of minutes. This means that it is important for you, the public, to become aware of and willing to assume personal responsibility in the realization of this goal. We are inviting you to take advantage of the opportunity to learn and become proficient in these skills. In a closely knit rural community such as ours the life you may be instrumental in saving may be very dear to you; indeed through involving your friends and family it may be your very own! If you, your family, friends, church or school groups are interested please feel free to contact Jeanette McQuarrie, R.N., Director of Education, Wasatch County Hospital or telephone 654-2500 to make an appointment. May we, at Wasatch County Hospital, take this opportunity to thank you for your continuing support and wish you a safe and healthy summer.

Wasatch County Hospital Provides

Good Health Care

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Education is fundamental to all levels of medical science and all of its branches. Its importance after completion of basic educational requisites is universally understood. Advances in technique and knowledge emerge through discovery almost daily, making a program of continuing education a necessary and integral part of hospital routine.

Heading Wasatch County Hospital's education program is Jeanette McQuarrie, R.N. Her responsibilities include monitoring applicable recommendations for levels of care from various national, state and local organizations and determining how these can be effectively integrated into our present policies and procedures. She reviews the needs of individuals and the various groups within the hospital then translates and organizes that information into a program of education. Resources within the hospital and without are utilized to insure that

all personnel are knowledgeable, skilled and informed of any major advances or changes in policy. Often problems, having been identified by the quality assurance coordinator, are referred to her for recommendation for an appropriate in-service; the basic premise being that the diffusion of proper information to all levels, with few exceptions, eliminates the difficulty.

Topics of late have included physical assessment, infection control, and the use of blood and blood products. Of major and continuing concern has been CPR (cardio-pulmonary resuscitation.) Since the 1973 National Conference on CPR in Emergency Cardiac Care support has been increasing to emphasize programs to train medical, paramedical and lay persons in each respective community in the technique of CPR.

It has long been understood that hospitals and their staffs should assume responsibility for on-going instruction and certification in BLS (basic life support) and ACLS (advanced cardiac life support), thus insuring an additional margin of safety and the highest possible quality of care to both its patients and the community it serves. In keeping with that trust Wasatch County Hospital and its education program recommend certification in BLS for all employees and ACLS certification for all licensed personnel. There are few hospitals of comparable size that can boast of such an accomplishment. In addition, there are two of our employees, Jeanette McQuarrie, R.N. and Larry Smith, R.T., who are also certified in Pediatric ACLS. This does indeed give each patient an advantage of safety and should offer comfort to those who have chosen hospitalization in this

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proved program four hours instruction and symptomatic to implement both one-on-one techniques of an obstetric practice or infant maintenance exam. A student identifying the BLS skills. If you a ability to these skills that the people for all pediatric school children and saving lives involving a life the obtaining victim. We are ity-based service at the best important ity is in in help to that critic This mea you, the of and wi responsible this goal take advantage to learn these skills community you may be through family If you church interest contact J Director County 654-2500 May Hospital thank y support healthy